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ORATION

SPOKE AT

WILL's COFFEE-HOUSE

IN

SCOTLAND-YARD, WHITE-HALL

CONTAINING,

REFLECTIONS on the *British* MARINE, as it relates to t
Conduct of the Military Officers employ'd therein.

By an Eminent SEA-OFFICER.

LONDON:

Printed for [illegible] ROBINSON, and Sold by the Bookfellers of *Lond*
and *Weſtminſter*. M DCC XLIV.

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AN ORATION SPOKE AT *WILL's* COFFEE HOUSE, in *Scotland-Yard.*

THE Supporting of a Royal Navy to guard the *Britiſh* Coaſt, to humble our Enemies, and to render Commerce eaſy, ſafe and extenſive, has been attended to in almoſt all Ages, with the Approbation and Satisfaction of every Rank of Men in the Kingdom; and whatever other Taxes may have been complain'd of, or have given Diſguſt, thoſe appropriated to the Naval Service, are ever tender'd with a Smile. The *Engliſh* eſteem their Ships of War as a Kind of Divinities, who not only cover them from Harm, but, when requir'd, act as the Inſtruments of their Vengeance, and ſtrike Terror into the Hearts of their Enemies. Theſe wooden Idols, like the Deities, in Ancient Times, move not of themſelves; but are actuated by ſuch Spirit, as the Wiſdom of the reſpective Governments have at all times thought proper to furniſh them with, to anſwer State Purpoſes. The Spirits of the ancient Divinities, that gave them Life and Motion, were *Prieſts*; thoſe who inſpire our Sons of *Jupiter*, our thund'ring Idols, are, or ſhould be, a Kind of ſagacious Military Beings, active as the Winds, aſſiduous as the Beaver, buſy and provident as the Bee, and ſtout as Lions; and being thereby capable of influencing them to effect, act like the Followers of *Mahomet*, *viz.* render them ador'd by the meer Force of Power. On the contrary, if thoſe Beings who are to actuate them, prove of another Kind; if they ſhould happen to have the Negligence of the Camel, the Idleneſs of the Drone, and the Meekneſs of the Lamb; the Godlike Power inſtantly ceaſes, their Influence is no more regarded, and every Shallop may glide by under their very Stems, and laugh their Divinities to ſcorn.

I AM led into theſe Reflections by a Chain of concurrent Circumſtances, which ſeperately gave me no little Concern; but united ſhock me beyond Expreſſion. It is an Account of the various Negligences, the Sloth and Cowardice of many of our Naval Commanders, on whom, like the World on the Shoulders of *Atlas*, is laid the Burthen of the Defence, Welfare, and Glory of the State; and for which they enjoy ſuitable Honour, Pay, and Encouragement.

A TUTOR who inſtructs his Pupil, or a Parent his Child, and deſires they ſhould be effectually benefited by his Leſſons, ſhould proceed rather by Way of Reaſon, than Authority; he ſhould rather take Pains to convince their Underſtanding, than endeavour by main Force to drive into them ſuch Opinions as he may judge moſt conducive to the good End purſued. To this Purpoſe, he ſets before them ſuch Examples, directs them in ſuch Methods, and uſes all ſuch Arts of Inſtruction as that whe-

they have receiv'd this or that uſeful Truth, it may fix itſelf in the Memory, and not vaniſh away immediately with the Sound that convey'd it; but having the Aſſent of the Underſtanding in its firſt Reception, it may take Root in the Mind and remain a uſeful Maxim for the future Conduct of Life. We are all Children, all in a State of Pupillage in one Senſe or another; and while I am entering here on the Part of a Voluntier Tutor, I am no doubt in many Reſpects myſelf in great Want of Inſtruction, and therefore do not in the leaſt queſtion, but that I ſhall expoſe myſelf to various Kinds of Reflection. However, I muſt deſire this of my Brother Seamen not to take it amiſs, to find their Failings criticis'd, becauſe it is meant for for their Good, nor ſerve themſelves by recurring to that ſtale Plea, *viz.* that the Critick himſelf is not without his Faults; becauſe it will not ſerve their Turn, as it mends not their Errors in the leaſt, nor in any Senſe will it quiet the Clamours of the Publick. The only Point in Queſtion will be, not whether the Criticiſm be juſt and fine, but whether thoſe who occaſion it be culpable.

THE tendereſt Way I can contrive of purſuing this diſagreeable Taſk, will be, Firſt, to introduce the brighteſt Examples of Antiquity. Secondly, to exhibit the Evils which muſt neceſſarily flow from the preſent Practice. And Thirdly, to illuſtrate the Benefits that naturally reſult from a contrary Behaviour in Naval Commanders. And when our preſent Set of Officers ſhall be convinc'd of their own Miſtakes, and of the friendly and diſintereſted Part I am herein acting, I am in no Doubt, but it will affect them, as it ought: that it will reach the inmoſt Receſſes of their Hearts, and by recovering them from a State of Indolence, Unconcern, and a wrong Judgment of Things, contribute to give them ſuch a Figure in the Eye of the Publick, as may render them at once juſtly honour'd and applauded: To anſwer which important End, our firſt Recourſe muſt be to Hiſtory, as it is capable of furniſhing us with Abundance of very bright Examples, which, if attended to, cannot but give us a right Idea of the Love we ought to have for, and the Duty we owe to, our Country, the Common Parent and Nurſing Mother of us all, under whoſe Government we are protected in the Purſuit of every ſocial Good, and encourag'd to be rich, eaſy and happy; and conſequently of the abundant Obligations we are under, when employ'd in its Defence againſt the common Enemy of Mankind, to act with Honour and Juſtice.

THE Love of one's Country, a Virtue of the Firſt Rank, was in ſo high Eſteem amongſt the Ancients, that Life, Liberty and Eſtate were the common Sacrifices made to it. It is almoſt impoſſible to reflect on the Behaviour of that brave *Roman* Youth, who to ſave his Country from Deſtruction, voluntarily leap'd into the Gaping Chaſm, and was devour'd by the voracious Earth; or of him who knowing how fatal it would be to his Country, at that Time, to make Peace with a determin'd implacable Enemy, who only intended by it to gain a temporary Advantage, rather than even adviſe an Aſſent, choſe to return to Impriſonment, Torments, and Death: 'Tis almoſt impoſſible I ſay to reflect on the Conduct of thoſe Godlike Men, without being fill'd with the moſt exalted Thoughts, and reſolving to imitate their glorious Behaviour.

AS the Offering up one's Life to ſave Multitudes, is the higheſt Heroick Virtue; ſo the refuſing or neglecting their Defence, more eſpecially when lawfully call'd upon for that Purpoſe, is the higheſt Degree of Puſillanimity, Cowardice and Treachery. *Cincinnatus* retir'd from the World and all its idle Vanities, perfectly eaſy and happy within the Circuit of a narrow Fortune; yet, when call'd upon, to his Country's Defence, reſum'd his Arms, conquer'd, and return'd again to his Cottage, unrewarded with ought, but the Glory of the immortal Act. It was thus

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in former Times that Men went to War in Defence of their Country upon the Principles merely of Honour; and it is but of late Years, that Officers, of Rank and Dignity eſpecially, took Pay of the State even in *England*; and much later, that they thought themſelves entitled to thoſe Benefits, which heretofore were appropriated to the Common Stock. In former Times, the Reward of Honour was the Smile of the Sovereign, the Reverence of the People, the Eſteem of the Ladies, and the Ornament of a Medal, or a Ribbon, wherewith to dignify their publick Appearance, and diſtinguiſh them from the common Herd: They gloried in ſuch Marks of Diſtinction not in a ſordid Purſuit after Wealth; they were contented with Crowns of Laurel, and with the Pomp and Applauſe of a Triumph. Minds thus nobly turn'd fitted Men to act above the natural State of their Abilities, and give to ſmall Numbers, Victory over Multitudes. The Battles of *Marathon* and *Thermopylæ* were ſo fought; ſo *Hannibal* was drove out of *Italy*, *Xerxes* out of *Greece*, and the *Auſtrians* out of *Switzerland*; ſo our *Edwards* and *Henries* conquer'd *France*, and *Elizabeth* bleſt with Men of this gallant Turn repuls'd the Power of *Spain*, turn'd a defenſive into an offenſive War, and our Fleets triumph'd on the Ocean. It was thus, that the immortal *Drake*, who purſu'd ſo many Perils, and perform'd ſo many Wonders, eſteem'd himſelf ſufficiently paid by the Honours beſtow'd on him by his Sovereign; and out of that mighty Maſs of Wealth which he took from the Enemy, left behind him but a ſmall Eſtate; however, he has, what is infinitely more valuable, a glorious Memory, and his Body in the Boſom of that Element, whereon he had acquir'd an unequall'd Reputation.

But no ſooner did that Spirit evaporate, which inſpir'd ſuch heroick Principles, than Military Men began to think, not only Pay, but the Plunder of the Enemy, the juſt Reward of their venal Service; and not content therewith, improve ſtill in their Demands on the Publick, tho' they know not what they would have, nor for what Service. Not the Gain from the Enemy, nor the Pay from the State, nor the Smile of the Sovereign, nor the Eſteem of the People, are ſufficient to reward our Modern Heroes, who think they have a Right to be honour'd and rewarded for idling about the Town, and revelling in Luxury and Folly; rather ſtudying Dreſs, than Science, and applying rather to what enervates the Body and corrupts the Mind, than to the immediate Buſineſs of their Stations: Their whole Thoughts are bent upon rigging of themſelves, when they ſhould be employ'd about their Ships; when they ſhould be putting them into a Condition to do Honour to themſelves, and Service to their Country.

Did theſe pretty Fellows but conſider, that the annual Expence of the Navy is, at this Time, 2,000,000; that every Rank of Men contribute towards their Support, when the greateſt Part can hardly tell how to get Bread for their Families: Did they but conſider that it is in the Power of the Great Council of the Nation to annihilate their Profits, and in the Breaſt of the Sovereign to diveſt them of their Commands, and to place more brave, active ſpirited, and leſs venal Men in their Places; Had they the leaſt Senſe of Honour and Honeſty, the leaſt Regard to their own Fame and Intereſt, Love for their Country, or the Welfare and Defence of thoſe who ſupport and enrich them, the leaſt Regard to the brave and gallant Behaviour of their Predeceſſors: How they acted, how they triumph'd over ſuperior Force, and made the Enemy tremble at their very Names! When now glorying in a ſuperior Power, the greateſt ever *Britain* law, we are through Negligence and Ignorance hardly regarded: Did they, I ſay, conſider all this with the leaſt Attention, and had but a Grain of Honour and Gallantry in them, would they not firſt bluſh at their Remiſſneſs, and then reſolve by Amendment to retrieve their Repu-

tation? And before an implacable Enemy gets Head, contribute to destroy the Source of their Naval Power, and give them so contemptible a Figure in the Eyes of all *Europe*, as may render them despicable to all Futurity.

Our Navy Officers now-a-days, when their Superiors complain of their Negligence and Remissness in getting their Ships to Sea, pretend generally in their Defence, that they cannot get Men. Now supposing this to be true, what is it owing to, but to Indolence, Inexperience, and the Want of behaving well to their Men, or not having taken Pains to acquire such Reputation for Bravery and Conduct, as may attract Attention and Regard? A Commander who is brave and wise, never wants Men, whatever those, who are not so, may pretend: And if they are too young to understand this Truth, they are infinitely unfit to command; and it is highly disingenuous in them to accept of, and dishonest in their Patrons to recommend to a Post, Men fitted for it, by nothing but their Interest; as if at this important Crisis the Fate of the Nation ought to depend, rather upon a Man's being well born, or well befriended, than capable of doing his Duty.

Those Officers who want Men in War-Time,* have been generally observ'd to want them equally in Peace; so that this Deficiency is not owing to the Want of Men in the Nation, but to the Want of proper Qualifications in the Commander, whereof Activity and Bravery are not the least: Not only the Common Seamen, but the Common Land-Men too, have something distinguishedly brave and heroick in their Natures, and when they know of an Officer of a familiar Turn, they flock to him as it were by Sympathy. These honest plain People dont chuse to be commanded by Officers, whose Indolence and Disregard for Action, or whose effeminate Manners cause them to imagine, they are rather at Home with their Mistresses, than aboard a Ship of War, where Glory ought to reside in its brightest Splendour: Such Appearances give them a sensible Disgust at first Sight; they can't conceive how such Officers, can possibly be able to conduct them to Honour and Riches. On the contrary, when forc'd to act under such Power, they look upon themselves as either to be sacrific'd to the Enemy, or buried in a Harbour. Thus reason those brave honest Fellows, and consequently when such a Commander presents, the Cause of his wanting Men can be no great Mystery.

It has been the Fate of this unhappy Nation Time immemorial, especially in the Royal Navy, to be plagu'd with two Kinds of Beings, directly opposite in their Manners, but equally worthless; these are the Beau and the Brute. The latter is so much the best, as that he does as well as he can: The former so much the worst, as that he does not chuse to do any Thing that may either contribute to his own Honour, or his Country's Glory. His Manners are form'd by the worst Examples of the lightest People on Earth; but neglects to imitate them in what they are remarkably excellent, *viz.* their Attention to Science and their Activity; as if Dress were sufficient to make a Man a Mariner, a Mathematician, a Soldier, or a Scholar; and that Science would render him a Brute, reversing thus the Nature and Reason of Things by leaving off, where common Sense ought to inform him other Men begin.

Dress in itself, is certainly not to be despis'd, nay, it is even possible for a Beau to be a brave Man. Dress, is only bad when attended with an effeminate Mind, or springing therefrom; but the Misfortune is, that the one is too commonly taken to be the Cause of the other; and as we sometimes happen to see the Beau and the Indolent in the same Person, we are but too apt to conclude, that

* *Mem.* The Case of Mr. Haddock.

that they are in their Natures ſo connected together, that it is impoſſible for a Beau to be fit for Buſineſs. However this may be, it will certainly happen, that whenever a Man of this Turn neglects to forward the Service, with Vigour and Activity, his Indolence or Negligence will be attended with a double Evil, as his public Appearance will give a worſe Aſpect to his Affairs, and what would have been eſteem'd a Negligence in a plain Man, will in him be look'd upon as the Effects of Effeminacy and Cowardice; and as there is nothing eaſier than to dreſs well, without affecting the Coxcomb, ſo a Man who acts that Part, muſt do great Things, to make the World believe ſuch an Appearance coincides, with Valour and Aſſiduity.

WHAT led me to be more particular in theſe Remarks was an Incident that occur'd to me the other Day in St. *James*'s Park, where I was addreſs'd by a Perſon, who had formerly been my Servant, and who was, as I thought, a very good *Valet*. Upon my aſking him the Reaſon of his being out of Place, he replied that the Nature of Places were now ſo chang'd that he could not find himſelf of any Uſe, unleſs he ſerv'd a new Apprenticeſhip to a Lady's Waiting-Woman; that he did not expect one about St. *James*'s, and had therefore applied himſelf to ſeveral Sea-Officers; but was ſurprizingly diſappointed to find that he could not be accepted, becauſe he was unacquainted with the Method of Curling and Furbiſhing out to the beſt Advantage the Natural Hair, ſo as to make it a *Tete de Mouton*, that is, in plain *Engliſh*, a *Sheep's Head*. I could not readily bring myſelf to believe, that any Thing could induce the rough military Mariner, to endeavour to make himſelf look like ſuch an Animal. I aſk'd the Name of one of thoſe he mention'd, and the Coffee-Houſe he us'd; and being properly directed I went immediately in Purſuit of this Son of Terro and to my great Concern ſaw a Figure, whoſe Dreſs, Air, and Attitude, will never be loſt to my Memory. Hiſtory, and ſome Obſervations of my own occur to inform me, that the ſavage People of moſt Nations both Ancient and Modern, dreſs'd themſelves in the moſt terrible Appearances, ſuch as of Bears, Wolves, Lions, Tigers, and the like; but none yet ever occurr'd to me that dreſs'd like the *Mouton*, except in Fable, where the Thief is delineated by a Wo in *Sheep's* Cloathing. However, if Mariners of this Caſt happen to prove bra and do their Duty, 'tis poſſible their Outſide pacifick Appearance may be ove look'd; and the Remarks hereon made, if they happen to incite them to D gence, my Labour will not be loſt, and the Benefit ariſing therefrom, prove once both publick and perſonal.

THE *Dutch*, if I am rightly inform'd, have the trueſt Touch-ſtone in World to try their Officers by: They give them Ships, but then their Credit Induſtry muſt get them mann'd, or they loſe their Commiſſions. A Practice that Kind here would ſoon ſhow, who are fitteſt to command; it being v obvious, that a Ship without Men is uſeleſs, and the Inconveniencies which nat rally attend forcing Men into the Service are no way recompenc'd by ſupporting pretty Fellow in Idleneſs and Folly, who, during the Heat of an expenſive W can have no Pretence to enjoy his Pay and Perquiſites, merely to anſwer the P poſe of his Pleaſures, when active Men have no more for doing their Duty: S Men, as theſe, ought like Drones to be driven from the Hive, and not ſuffe to mingle with the Induſtrious, and batten on the Sweets of their Labour: there is in ſome Mens Minds, a Kind of little Greatneſs, a Kind of wretched A bition, of aſpiring to the Follies inſtead of the Perfections of thoſe, who by b their Superiors in Fortune, and having nothing elſe to do, relax into Weakn

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…ſtock, however they may become thoſe who were born to be idle, are quite ridi-…culous in ſuch, as have not only their Fortunes to make, but have alſo a Duty …incumbent on them, to turn their Thoughts to more important Matters, and to …ſtudy, as I may juſtly ſay, in the Character of Heroes.

…Such Gentlemen as theſe muſt have no inconſiderable Stock of Vanity to ima-…gine they ought to be ſupported at Two Millions Annual Expence, and that …drawn from the Vitals of a Conſumptive State; while Men of Honour are …begging their Bread, and the poor Labourer ſweating out his Soul for a ſorry …Subſiſtence, to contribute to the Sum, beſtow'd on Men, to whom Honour and …Bravery are utter Strangers; yet who bluſh not at the Naming of that Train of …Heroes, whoſe invincible Spirits ſpred *England*'s Fame to far diſtant Climes, and …render'd her Navies as well known, and as much rever'd, as that luminous Body …to whom they paid daily Adoration.

…Perhaps our Gay Officers upon reading this, may alledge in their Defence, …Why, what would you have us to do? We get to Sea as ſoon as our Ships are …ready. I anſwer, but you do not get them ready ſo ſoon as you ſhould: You …have the Preſumption to be Commanders before your Time, by the Force of …your Intereſt, before you know what to do with a Ship, before you have learn'd …the Mariner's *A. B. C.* the firſt Rudiments of a rough Honourable Life; careleſs …of your own and your Country's Welfare and Glory, not remembring, that bad …behaviour has already loſt you the Benefit of your Purſeries in ſmall Ships, and …how eaſy is it, and how ready the State may be, to deprive you of more bene-…ficial Perquiſites? For how can you expect any Regard ſhould be paid you, who …either regard your Country's Fame and Safety, nor your own Honour? Do you …receive an extravagant Proportion in the Share of Prizes? Do not the Mer-…chants make you handſome Preſents, when you take Care of the Trade? Does not …the Sovereign honour you, the People eſteem you, and the State pay you? And …all merely for doing your Duty. And dare you neglect that? And for all …ſo high Favours and Benefits laugh your Patrons and Benefactors to ſcorn, be-…cauſe your Intereſt protects you, and you dare do it? Do you think it impoſſible …to turn the Tables upon you? Take care: The Time is nearer at Hand, than …you imagine, when thoſe who glory in Infamy and Folly, ſhall be treated with …the Contempt they merit, and Men of Honour only be reſpected and re-…warded.

…I have often wonder'd, that ſince Intereſt has got the better of Merit, and …that thoſe who direct the Admiralty are oblig'd to make many Officers againſt …their Judgment, that ſome Method has not been thought on, whereby to put a …kind of ingenious Force on the Minds of the Careleſs and Inexperienced. I …could think ſuch a Thing quite practicable: As ſuppoſe, a Rule was form'd …and well digeſted, directing firſt the Courſe of a young Mariner's Education, in …Science and Languages; next of his Behaviour and Duty in the reſpective Stations …he is to paſs through: And laſtly, of his Conduct, as a Commander. Annexing …thereto, a conciſe, but full and perfect Abſtract of the Hiſtory of the Royal Navy: …Which the Commander ſhould either read, or hear read before him, in the …preſence of all his Officers and young Gentlemen ſo many times a Year. It would …certainly have this good Effect, that if it did not make them better, it would at …leaſt puniſh them with very ſevere Reflections, and bring thoſe that deſerv'd it …due Contempt. How a Coward muſt look, when he hears recounted the …glorious Actions of his Predeceſſors, their arduous Purſuits, indefatigable Labours, …dearied Endeavours, and bold Enterprizes? Senſe and Nature muſt even be

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baniſh'd, and a Man be as ſtupid as a Stock, who could hear ſuch Things repeated to him frequently without Regard. It might likewiſe be proper to give a Sketch of thoſe that had behav'd ill, and how they were puniſh'd. As alſo in what Manner they were rewarded who behav'd ſo, as to be an Honour to their Country; omitting ſuch Inſtances, where through the Fatality of the Times, neither Sort were treated according to their reſpective Demerits; or in Caſe it ſhould be deem'd proper to include all, ſpecial Care ſhould be taken to explain the true Cauſes by ſuitable Comments. As ſuch a Scheme may one Time or other be thought worth purſuing, when an able Hand can be found for proſecuting it to Effect, it may not perhaps be amiſs to ſtrike the Outlines.

I MUST previouſly obſerve, that there are two Reaſons, why Gentlemen ſend their Sons or Relations to Sea: The one is becauſe they have Intereſt to raiſe them, the other becauſe they have nothing to give them. Theſe Reaſons when they coincide with a happy Conſtitution and natural Abilities, may not be amiſs, but when theſe Things are done merely for ſuch Reaſons Sake; however it may anſwer the Purpoſe of the Parent or Relation, anſwers but indifferently to the Welfare of State, which depends, as I have obſerv'd before, very much on the Skill, Conduct, and Application of the Navy-Officers. And that thoſe People who are for ſending their Sons or Relations to Sea, purely that they may one Day be Admirals, without either Inclination or Abilities tending to that End, may ſee the Folly of ſuch precipitate Doings, I will beg Leave to give them firſt, my poor Opinion, what Kind of Youth he ought to be, who will probably one Day, make a Figure in the reſpective Stations through which he may have the Honour to paſs.

HIS Conſtitution ſhould be naturally ſtrong, vigorous and robuſt: His Diſpoſition quick and ſpritely; his Genius forward and enterprizing, inclining to Mechanicks and generally in Action; he ſhould be taken from his Nurſe's Lap and the fondling Careſſes of Women very early, to be only the Companion of Men, and inur'd to Hardſhips from his Cradle, by being ſent as ſoon as poſſible to ſuch Publick Schools, where leſs Care is taken of their Proviſion and Lodging, than of their Education. As his Mind grows ſtronger, by the Increaſe of Years, he ſhould be carried aboard Ships, and his Inclination tried, whether he ſeem delighted with that Manner of Life, after having the Hardſhips of it reported to him: If he does, let thoſe Actions which are truly heroick be repreſented to him in a plain Light, and at the ſame Time let it be inſinuated, that only ſuch are capable of making him truly great, and that unleſs he is inclin'd to the like Purſuits, it is in vain for him to think of being a Mariner, or riſing to any Poſt of Conſequence. If all this ſeems to ſuit him, then let the Turn of his Education be fram'd accordingly: Let Mathematicks and Hiſtory be the chief Employment of his Time; one will throw him into Schemes of Method and Contrivance, the other give him Patterns of what is great and honourable: It will enlarge his Mind and expand his Underſtanding. For this Purpoſe, he will not need many Books, which too often rather perplex than inſtruct young Minds. It is very hard, not to ſay improper, to preſcribe but beſides ſuch as are neceſſary for his Mathematical Studies, I ſhould think generally ſpeaking Sir *Walter Raleigh*'s *Hiſtory of the World*; *His Advice to his Son*; Mr. *Burchet*'s *Naval Hiſtory*; and Mr. *Lock on Human Underſtanding*, with proper *Grammars* and *Dictionaries* for the Modern Languages, may probably furniſh ſufficiently a young Mariner's Library, being aſſur'd that when he underſtands thoſe well, he will be Maſter of more real Learning, than half his Brother Seamen put together.

the Age of Fifteen, he ſhould be put aboard a Twenty-Gun Ship, and if poſſible going ſome long Voyage. He ſhould, by all Means, at any Expence be made the conſtant Companion of the Captain or Lieutenant, that he may not fall into the bad Converſation of the Common Men, and have his young Mind tainted with low Conceits, and vulgar Drolleries; when he enters the Ship, he ſhould be inſtructed to obſerve nicely, that profuſe Scene of Mechaniſm which diſplays itſelf at firſt Sight, which ſupports the Maſts, acts upon the Sails and directs the various Motions and Turnings of the Yards, their Powers and Operations. He ſhould thence deſcend to the Uſe and Operation of the Great Guns, what Angles they are capable of making, and how to be us'd to moſt Advantage: He muſt be made to obſerve, the Manner of a Ship's Riding moor'd or ſingle, the Effect of the Wind and Stream, and how ſhe is to be kept clear; the Manner of getting in, and coiling the Cables, the Stowage of the Hold, and the various Kinds of Methods commonly made uſe of to theſe Purpoſes; and laſtly, the Formation and Mechaniſm of the Hull, and the Proportion of the Powers, that direct its Motion with greateſt Velocity. Theſe, a tolerable Acquaintance with the Mathematicks, and due Application, will lead him ſuddenly into a thorough Knowledge of, freed from the Prejudices and vulgar Errors, ſo uſually imbib'd in Mariners, againſt which he is to be cautiouſly guarded. As his Experience ripens with his Age, his Reading and Obſervations muſt be his chief Inſtructors, it being impoſſible to delineate how he ſhould act, on ſuch a Variety of Occaſions, as will preſent, and cannot be foreſeen. The General Rules are. Be cautious of giving Offence; Love your Country; Deſpiſe not your Enemy too much; Follow, for Virtue's Sake, and your own Fame, the beſt Tracks that lie before you. Never loſe Sight of your brave Predeceſſors, nor attempt ſo much to imitate, as to excell, them: Remember that your Country feed, protects, and pays you; and if you deſerve it, will honour and enrich you. And when you come to command, conſider your Ship as a little Commonwealth rather than a Monarchy, where you are rather to govern well, than to tyrannize: Preſerve Diſcipline regular, exact, and uniform, always remembering that thoſe whom Accident has plac'd below you, are only the Engines by which you are to work your Way to Glory. Therefore to cheriſh and keep them in good Order, is no more than laying a firm Foundation whereon to erect an exalted Structure: He who either neglects his Duty, or joyns with the Purſer to rob the poor Men of their Allowance, is a pitiful Fellow, and fitter to be a Robber than a Commander; he is a Diſgrace to his Parents, a Diſhonour to his Country, a Shame to himſelf, and a contemptible Object in the Eyes of all Mankind, and will always be eſteem'd a Miſtake in Nature, where, in the Figure of a Man, is incloſ'd the Soul of the vileſt Animal.

I SHALL conclude my preſent Obſervations with only intimating farther, that I have pitch'd on a Brother Mariner, whom I have engag'd to furniſh you with a ſuccinct Hiſtory of the Acts of our Glorious Predeceſſors, from the Great King *Alfred* down to thoſe preſent Honourable Perſonages, whoſe Memories will exiſt equal with Time, and be everlaſtingly rever'd: As alſo an Account of thoſe Wretches who will be remember'd for their Infamy, and tranſmitted to Poſterity the ſame Light with him, who burnt the Temple of *Diana* at *Epheſus*; interſperſed with proper Remarks and ſuitable Reflections, at once tending to your Inſtruction and Emolument, whereout you are to chuſe that Part you intend to act, and to direct your Purſuits accordingly.

FINIS.